

IN SEARCH OF GOLD.—We learn from Mr. JOHN WARD who has been on a visit to Abiquiu that there is considerable excitement in that neighborhood consequent upon the reports which have obtained currency that gold in great abundance is to be found on the San Juan and its tributaries. Our readers will remember that last spring was published in the *Gazette* the notes of Messrs Pfeiffer and Mercure, who spent several weeks in the San Juan country, and that their journal contained a description of the region through which they traveled, making mention of many gold deposits that came under their observation. The discoveries made by these gentlemen, we believe, was the cause of directing the attention of prospectors to the locality of the supposed new gold fields. Within the last few weeks many experienced miners from the waters of the Platte, Arkansas and Clear Creek have been assembling at Abiquiu, and last week formed themselves into a company and started on a prospecting tour. These men are reported to be intelligent, industrious, moral and enterprising. Such a class of men as is well calculated to accomplish the undertaking they have in hand. They were kindly received by Messrs Pfeiffer and Mercure, who gave them all the information they possessed in regard to the geography of the country &c. T. H. Todd of Omaha N. T. was chosen captain of the party which is composed of about fifty men. Those who have gone out will, after having made observations, return and conduct the balance to the field of operations. A portion has been left at Abiquiu to take care of the stock, wagons and mining implements, with all of which they are well supplied. It is anticipated by the time the pioneers return there will be many more experienced men at Abiquiu to join them in their explorations.

It has long been thought that there was gold in the San Juan country although we are not informed that any very vigorous efforts have ever been made to prove the truth of the supposition. A fair test will, however, now be made and it is to be hoped that the most sanguine anticipations of the people will be realized.

There has been no information in regard to the movements of the volunteers since they marched from Jemes on the 25th of September. They have undoubtedly penetrated far into the Navajo country, and been doing something towards chastising them.

We understand that on or about the first of November another party of Utahs and citizens will go from Rio Arriba to the Navajo country. The last expedition from there was quite successful in the way of capturing stock and prisoners but not much was done towards punishing the Navajos. It would be well for these parties to regard the whipping of the enemy as the primary object to be accomplished and depriving them of their property as the secondary object. The citizens should try and manage affairs so as to keep the Indians in subjection, and make them serviceable in other ways than driving home horses and captives.

The Presidential Campaign.

As the election day approaches the prospects for Democratic success brighten. Until recently it appeared like a foregone conclusion that the negro worshipping abolitionists were to obtain possession of the reins of government and lead the country to perdition. Now, there is a slight ray of hope that such a calamity may be averted—that abolitionism may be defeated and that the confederacy may be relieved from the perils which environed it and threatened its irretrievable destruction. This hope is founded on the recent action had in New York by all the political elements that are opposed to the success of the party of which Abraham Lincoln is the chosen leader. After many interviews and much negotiation the Breckinridge, Douglas and Bell men in that state effected a compromise in which a Union electoral ticket was formed composed of seven of the friends of Breckinridge, eighteen of the friends of Douglas and ten of the friends of Bell. By this arrangement it is designed to have but two tickets to be voted for and the voters will of necessity be forced to select between the abolition ticket and the one thus formed out of all

the opposition parties. Whilst it must be acknowledged that of the politicians of the entire country the New Yorkers are the least reliable, that the result of their action is the most difficult to be anticipated because, in determining their political conduct they are influenced by motives entirely different from those which operate on the people of other states, yet there may be in the present exigency of affairs influences at work which will combine their patriotism and interest in an effort to lay abolitionism on the shelf and give a vote for the country.

Efforts are being made to form a similar fusion in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Some of our exchanges speak with much confidence with regard to Pennsylvania being carried against the abolitionists, but we think upon a survey of the whole ground that the Keystone state is pretty certain to cast her vote for Lincoln. In New Jersey there are more chances in favor of the combination ticket and a majority in the state may vote for it.

The friends of Mr. Douglas claim Illinois for him and some think Indiana and Missouri will also vote for him. With the exception of Missouri the vote of the southern states will be divided between Breckinridge and Bell with a large preponderance in favor of the former. In none of these states will the abolitionists have a ticket. Should the efforts above adverted to succeed, there will be no election by the people and the selection of a President will devolve upon the House of Representatives.

Important from Havana.

EXPEDITION OF TWENTY THOUSAND MEN FITTING OUT FOR MEXICO.

The New Orleans Picayune of Sept. 21 has the following:

"We understand that letters of the highest authority were received in this city by the *Cahuaba*, from Havana, which leave no room to doubt that something serious is pending between Spain and Mexico. They assert positively, indeed, that an expedition of not less than twenty thousand men is actually fitting out in that city for Vera Cruz. And of this no secret is made. Even the troops comprising the expedition, their regiments and companies, are mentioned. They are for the most part the acclimated troops of the island. Their places will be filled by recruits at home and re-enforcement from the Peninsula, the vanguard of which was daily expected.

"The ostensible ground of quarrel between Spain and Mexico have already been stated. The real object of the present expedition, however, if it should proceed to the Mexican coast, is armed intervention, looking to a permanent protection over the country, if not its ultimate acquisition. However Quixotic this may seem to us, it is no doubt actually in contemplation. A thousand recent events foreshadow it, and especially the recent recognition of the Miramoa Government in Mexico—a Government with which no other nation holds diplomatic relations. In that ceremony the powerful interposition of the Spanish Government was openly invoked to give peace to the country, and the Minister promised it, in diplomatic terms, it is true, but still in terms not to be misunderstood."

NEW SPANISH ENLISTMENT.

The Captain-General of Cuba caused to be published officially at Havana, on the 14th, the law of the last Cortes, ordering the enlistment of 25,000 new men for the recruit of the Spanish army. They are to be drawn by lot, and in proportion to the population, alike from the mother country and the colonies. The official publication of the law at the present time is with the object of giving due notice to the authorities and people of the island that it will at once be carried into effect.

The Execution of Gen. Walker.

The *Moses Taylor* which arrived in New Orleans subsequent to the date of the account of the capture of Gen. Walker and his men which we published last week, brings the subjoined additional intelligence. Some of the men who were with Walker came passengers on the *Taylor* and from them the narration of events here detailed was obtained by the *True Delta* and published as reliable. We presume there is no question but Walker was shot and Col. Rudler sentenced to imprisonment for four years.

On the 3d of September two British cutters, carrying forty men, came up the river, and Captain Salmon, of the *Icarus*, accompanied by Gen. Alvarez, of the Honduran army, stepped ashore and walked to the house in which General Walker was, and asked an interview with him, which was granted. Captain Salmon, a burly, bluff young British officer, of a very pompous authoritative manner, introducing himself to General Walker, informed him that Her Majesty's sloop-of-war *Icarus* lay off the mouth of the river, and that anchored near her was a ship, which had on board 250 Honduran soldiers, and he thereupon demanded the surrender of Walker and his command.

General Walker, with characteristic coolness and dignity, contrasting strongly with the pompous assurance of the Brit-

ish officer, asked whether this demand was made by Captain Salmon, as a British officer, and whether, if he surrendered, it would be to the British authorities?

To this inquiry Major Dolan and Captain West, who were present at the interview, solemnly assert that Salmon replied, "Yes, you surrender to me, as a British officer." The question was repeated by General Walker, and the same answer given by Commander Salmon, who rather haughtily and patronizingly added, "You may thank me, too, that you have a whole bone in your body."

The General then told them that under these circumstances he would surrender. The men were ordered to form, and their arms, even to their knives, were delivered over to the British marines, who formed a guard over them.

That night, when the men were all asleep, General Walker and Colonel Rudler were taken under a guard to the *Icarus*, and in the morning, all the men were taken on board the same vessel, where they were closely guarded, and not permitted to hold any conversation with Gen. Walker and Col. Rudler. On the 4th the *Icarus* weighed anchor and steamed up to Truxillo, where she arrived that night.

Off the way, all the officers and men of Walker's party were searched for papers which might be used for his conviction. In addition to the British sailors and marines on the *Salmon*, there was a force of about two hundred Honduran soldiers. On the morning of the 6th, the men of Walker's party were marched off the ship and paraded in front of three hundred Honduran soldiers.

Gen. Walker and Col. Rudler, were then formally delivered over to the Honduran authorities, and the men were marched off to prison under a guard of the British marines. They were confined in a wretched prison, with an allowance of one dollar and half a day for the whole party, and closely guarded by fifty or sixty armed men. During their detention however, the unfortunate prisoners received many acts of kindness from Spanish citizens residing in Truxillo, for which they expressed themselves in terms of warm gratitude.

While in prison they mourned the sad fate of their late beloved and heroic commander. Walker and Rudler, after being delivered over to the Hondurans, were heavily ironed and placed in dark cells, and no prisoner allowed to communicate with them. On the 11th of September the prisoners were informed by Mr. Squiers, an American, that the General was to be shot the next day.

Accordingly, on the morning of the 12th the doors and windows of the prison were all closed, but through the port holes the sad spectacle was witnessed by Major Dolan, of the cortege which led the General to the place of his execution. He walked between two priests, and was preceded and followed by a strong guard.

The party soon disappeared from the view of the prisoners. In ten minutes after they had marched by the prison a volley of four muskets was heard, then a volley of five, and finally a single shot followed by loud hurrahs.

And this was all the prisoners knew of the fate of their brave commander, until the doors and windows of their prison were thrown open and the fact was announced to them with great glee and exultation on the part of the Honduran officials.

The body of the General was left on the ground by the soldiers, whence it was taken by two American gentlemen and decently buried, with the aid of two Catholic priests.

Colonel Rudler was sentenced to four years' imprisonment, and was seen by the prisoners riding on a mule into the country, under a guard of soldiers.

We have other interesting facts relative to this expedition and the melancholy fate of Walker, which we are compelled to reserve for our edition of to-morrow morning.

Attempt to Lynch a Prisoner.

The following graphic description of an attempt to hang an acquitted prisoner we extract from *The Leavenworth Times* of the 18th. James A. Gordon had been accused of the murder of John Gantz in a gambling saloon at Leavenworth, Kansas, was tried and acquitted by the Court, and ordered to be set at liberty.

THE SCENE IN COURT.

The Marshal unbolted the chains, and as they clattered upon the floor, there arose a deep swelling sensation among the auditors. There is a rush toward the door of the Court room. The prisoner moves from his criminal seat to one beside his counsel; his face, before marked with calmness, now crimsoned, gazes upon the door with uneasiness; turns toward the Court, and manifests the feelings of a man who has passed one trying ordeal to undertake another and more severe one.

THE EXCITEMENT SPREADS.

Sometime before Gordon was discharged rumors flew about the streets that he would soon be acquitted. Crowds rushed to the Court House to ascertain the facts, some out of curiosity and others breathing vengeance. The rumors proved true. The news spread like wild-fire over the city, and the crowd augmented.

The prisoner was now free to go where he pleased, but dare not leave the Court room for fear of the angry crowds without. It was apparent that an attempt would be made to lynch him. At this time the excitement was so intense that clearly there was no other way to save Gordon's life except by taking him to the County Jail.

SCENES IN THE STREET.

Accordingly he placed himself under charge of the Mayor, and moved out of the Court House. When he entered the hall

a scene of the wildest excitement commenced. The Mayor and a posse of about fifty men started down the hall, and as the seething, teeming crowd surged to and fro, pressing against the officers and striving to get at the prisoner, it was a commotion such as only a mad crowd of human beings can get up. Down into the street they went, the crowd yelling "Hang him! hang him!" and the brave, stern officers closing around him, made a firm wall of protection.

Finally, by dint of great firmness, the Mayor landed him safely in jail. But now the serious trouble had just commenced. The crowd increased around the jail, and became more and more furious. Men armed with muskets and revolvers and knives gathered thick and fast, and as the shades of night came on, large bonfires were built up all around the jail, throwing their lurid light far out over the city, and the wild, demoniac yells of the infuriated people made it a scene terribly vivid and fearful.

FAITHFULNESS OF THE MOB.

During all this time Mayor McDowell made several speeches, urging obedience to the law and requesting the people to return home in quiet; that he was determined to enforce the law at all hazards. It was finally agreed between the Mayor and the ringleaders of the riot that Gordon should be delivered over to Sheriff Middaugh and that all further disorder and riotous proceedings should cease on that being done. To this arrangement the ruling spirits of the mob solemnly agreed. At this juncture, the Mayor left the jail for a few moments to attend to some matters on this side of the creek. In his absence, Gordon was brought out of the jail and turned over to Sheriff Middaugh, and now commenced a scene of mad fury that beggars description. The crowd rushed upon Gordon crying like demons, "Hang him! Hang him!" They forced him down into the narrow and rocky glen north of the jail. It was then about eight o'clock at night, and a thick darkness had settled upon the whole city, and this fierce crowd, raging in that dark glen like demons. It was terrible. But the brave officers stood by the prisoner like gallant men, and sometimes almost overbore they still recovered and pressed forward, holding their prisoner safe in their charge.

Several times the crowd had a halter around his neck, but each time an officer cut the rope, and thus they struggled up out of the ravine; and then followed a tumult and strife between the officers and rioters that was desperate to the last degree, up Fourth street to Shawnee, and down Shawnee to the Planter's House. Here the crowd halted, and the contest for half an hour was fierce and terrific. The din, howl and confusion was now worse than pandemonium, the prison begging to be hung, killed, or anything to take him out of such agony. By this time every article of clothing was torn off him, and he had nothing on his body but his clanking chains.

THE PRISONER SAVED.

The Mayor at last succeeded in organizing a fresh body of citizens, and with these he closed solidly around Gordon and again started for the jail, which, though a distance of about ten squares and across the ravine, was finally reached, after a desperate struggle, and the prisoner again safely landed from the fury of the mob.

Gordon is very badly bruised, cut and lacerated, and the Sheriff is also injured.

Battle of Lake Erie.

Appropos of the erection of a statue to the memory of Oliver Hazard Perry, at Cleveland, the *Providence* (R. I.) Journal recites the battle of Lake Erie:

War was declared against England in June, 1812. The Government at once conceived the idea of conquering Canada. But all their military efforts during the autumn were unavailing; most or them were disastrous. Gen. Hull surrendered his army, without firing a gun, on the 16th of August at Detroit, thus giving up at once the whole of Michigan. Gen. Van Rensselaer utterly failed in his attempt upon Queenstown. Dearborn succeeded little better upon the New York frontier. In January, 1813, Gen. Winchester strove in vain to regain what Hull had lost at the upper end of Lake Erie. It was only on the sea that laurels were won. Though our country had but eighteen vessels in her navy, and the English had a thousand, the capture of the *Guerriere* by the Constitution, of the *Macedonian* by the United States, of the *Frolic* by the *Wasp*, of the *Java* by the Constitution, of the *Peacock* by the *Hornet*, and all before the expiration of the first winter, seemed to presage that our glory was to come from our navy.

It was seen clearly that we must have a naval force upon the Northern lakes. The British had entire control of them. They had five armed vessels on Lake Erie, and we had none. Capt. Perry, who was then stationed at Newport in charge of a *Botella* of gun-boats, was ordered in February, 1813, to supervise the construction of a fleet on that lake, and to take charge of it. With 150 volunteers he set out in the dead of winter. The timber for his vessels was growing in the forest. He had few materials. He lacked for mechanics. He had no ammunition for defence. He was delayed a fortnight with Com. Chauncey at Sacket's Harbor. He rendered valuable service in the conquest of Fort George. With 200 men he spent nearly a week in dragging vessels from Black Rock up to Erie. He was watched by the enemy. Yet such was his energy and that of his men, that by the 24th of May two twenty-gun brigs and three gun-boats were launched, and on the 10th of July the guns were mounted. He was delayed by the want of men for his vessels till the 9th of August, when he sailed for the western part of the lake to aid Gen. Harrison. He was received with great joy, and 100 Kentuckians at once enlisted in his service. The next month was spent in drilling his forces.

It was at sunrise on the memorable 10th of September, that from his moorings in Put-in-Bay, a harbor formed by the Bass Islands at the western end of the lake, he descried the enemy's fleet approaching. The American force consisted of nine vessels carrying 64 guns, the British of six vessels with 63 guns. The latter was commanded by Barclay, who had seen service with Nelson and

had lost an arm at Trafalgar. The battle began at noon and continued till three o'clock. With what valor it was fought, how Perry stood by his vessel, the *Lawrence*, till she was totally disabled and 83 of her 103 men were killed or wounded, how he pushed off in his small boat, passed to the Niagara, and then swept down through the enemy's fleet, raking them right and left with double-shotted guns, till the British colors fell, it is not for us now to tell. It was at four o'clock that Perry wrote that line, which is ever associated with his name, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours." Forty-one of the British were killed and 94 wounded. Of the Americans 27 were killed and 96 wounded. Says Mr. Calvert, "this was the first American fleet that ever in line of battle encountered an enemy. The British fleet was the first fleet, since England had a navy, that had been captured."

This brilliant victory is memorable not alone for the bravery and skill which Perry and his comrades displayed. In entirely changed the aspect of the war on the Canadian frontier. It saved the whole North-west from the bayonets of the British and the scalping-knives of the Indians. It won for us more than Hull had lost. It left us entirely masters of Lake Erie, and enabled Gen. Harrison at once to cross into Canada, drive the British from Malden, pursue them along the Thames, and conquer them in that decisive battle which gave him and Col. Johnson such renown. Perry was by his side even here. His enthusiasm would not permit him to remain quietly on shipboard, while there was work to be done. As an aid to Gen. Harrison, he rendered valuable services in this expedition. The lakes and the North-west were thus regained, the British were defeated on their own soil, and the enthusiasm which had been kindled by our accession of naval victories on the sea was heightened by this proof of our superiority on our inland waters. The country rang with the praises of the young captain, who, at the age of twenty-eight, had thus, in six months, won the timber from the woods, built a fleet, and with it, defeated one of England's veteran commanders.

The Flight from Damascus.—The correspondent of the *London Times*, writing from Beyrout, on the 8th of August, thus narrates the approach of the fugitives from Damascus to that city:

On Saturday afternoon, about six o'clock, the fifth caravan of Christians, who had escaped the massacres in Damascus, arrived at Beyrout; and a more heartrending sight—one which made men weep like women, filling them at the same time with an almost irresistible craving for revenge—was probably never beheld. They had left Damascus on Thursday at noon, a column composed chiefly of women and children, and variously estimated at from 2000 to 3400 souls; for the Turkish authorities had provided cattle for the conveyance of 1500 persons, but many traveled on foot or on beasts of burden of their own or friends.

Parched with thirst, not half fed, unwashed, with clothes unchanged for nearly a month, choked with dust, and covered with flies, they fled bither, under heavens glowing like brass from the city, which, if it be the most ancient, will henceforth be the most infamous in the world. There were widows and orphans whose husbands, fathers and brethren had all been slain before their eyes, with every iniquity and cruelty the most barbarous fanaticism could devise, and whose most comely maiden had been sold to gratify the brutal lusts of filthy Arabs. Nearly all were afflicted with ophthalmia; five women had died on the journey; and one was taken in labor. Babies might be seen striving to suck food from breasts that were dried up.

Young children were so dirty, so disfigured by sores on which flies settled continually, as to be loathsome to look upon. Old men and women tottered under doorways and sank down exhausted, heedless of the crowd that pressed upon them, looking like so many bundles of dirty rags, and incapable of reaching out their hands to take the water for which they famished, or of crawling to the shelter provided for them by the authorities at Beyrout in three khans. The streets leading from the Damascus road were thronged with mules, shambling horses and asses, all huddled together, and rendering the condition of the fugitive all the more painful.

The volunteers rained down blows right and left upon the cattle; and from the statements made of their brutality on the journey, it required no great effort to believe that they would have beaten the "infidel dogs" committed to their keeping even more lustily, while it was difficult to say how far the curses and execrations which filled the air were confined to the animals—how far they were intended to apply to those of whom Moslem vengeance had been defrauded. In the hills between the cursings arose the piteous cries of babes, and here and there the wailings of women—Christian Rachel weeping for their children, and refusing to be comforted, because they are not." But generally speaking, the grief was too deep seated, too hopeless, for lamentation.

EUROPE.

The Anglo-Saxon's news is important. Sardinia has sent troops directly into the States of the Church, whereat "several Powers have protested." An English regiment had been defeated by New Zealanders, who routed them and captured some guns. Garibaldi is becoming daily more formidable in Europe. It is said that Victor Emanuel fears him. Napoleon considers France secure. The Pope's army was concentrated at Ancona. Cavour found occasion once more to explain the position of Sardinia. An engagement between the forces of Lamoriciere and Sardinia was expected. France and Piedmont are assuming antagonistic attitudes. Napoleon is stern toward Switzerland, which again appeals to the World.

On the whole the news is unmistakably serious, and any mail may announce a general war.

Death of Mrs. Gen. Harney.

A letter from Paris, the 29th, says: Mrs. Harney, wife of Gen. Harney, of the United States army, died at her residence, No. 28 Rue de Boiri, on Monday last, 27th. The funeral service over her remains took place at the Church of St. Philippe, Fanbourg St. Honore, with all the solemn and imposing ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church, of which she was a member. Among those who did honor to her remains I observed her son, son-in-law and nephew, Mr. Faulkner, the American Minister, Mr. Calhoun, a planter from Louisiana; Col. Stewart, son of Com. Stewart, and many other. The services at the church occupied more than an hour and were very grand and impressive.